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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/899,825
Applicant : FITZ et al.
Filed: : July 6, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1761
Examiner : Leslie A. Wong

Confirmation No.: 9665

Docket No. : 7392/71618
Customer No. : 22242

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window, Mail Stop **Non-Fee Amendment**
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

December 17, 2003

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Sir:

Applicants respond to the November 17, 2003 Requirement For Restriction by electing, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-2 and 7-12, with the species of claim 7 also being provisionally elected, since it would appear that, in fact, the task of conducting a search is not undue. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction. Failing that, please re-join claims upon indication of allowable subject matter. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

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